

THE SPEAKER ENDS A DEBATE.

THE CONDUCT CALLED IN QUESTION—ANOTHER DEBATE—THE GOVERNMENT'S ANSWER—OTHER DAILY—MUCH BAD FEELING MANIFESTED.

In the British House of Commons yesterday morning the Speaker arbitrarily closed the debate on the Irish Protection bill, which was then read. On the reassembling of the House, the decision of the Speaker was called in question, and an angry debate followed, resulting in the loss of another day to the Government. Mr. Gladstone is about to propose further restraints or obstructions. The excitement is intense.

EXCITING SCENES IN PARLIAMENT.

THE SPEAKER DECLARES THE DEBATE AT AN END—GRAT OUTCRY AT HIS ARBITRARY RULING—OBSTRUCTIVE TACTICS REVEALED.

LONDON, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 1881.

In the House of Commons Mr. Commins (Home Rule), member for Roscommon, resumed his seat at 8:45 o'clock this morning, after having spoken nearly two hours. Several members rose to points of order while he was speaking, but Deputy Speaker Playfair stated that although Mr. Commins was greatly trying the patience of the House, he was in order. The debate continued until 9 o'clock this morning, when the Speaker, who had resumed the chair, relieved Deputy Speaker Playfair, declined to allow the debate to continue longer. A scene of great excitement then occurred. At 9:30 a. m. a division was taken on the motion to adjourn the debate, which was lost by a vote of 104 to 10. Leave was then given to introduce the Protection bill, the Home Rulers leaving the House in a body. The second reading was fixed for noon to-day. The House then adjourned, having sat continuously for about forty-two hours.

The final speech before the intervention of the Speaker was by Mr. Bazar, who concluded by expressing his wish for the success of Fenianism. During Mr. Bazar's speech Premier Gladstone entered the House and was loudly cheered. It was at this point that the Speaker resumed the chair, at 9 o'clock a. m. He immediately said:

"During forty-two hours the House has been occupied by repeated motions for adjournment, supported by small minorities in opposition to the general sense of the House. A great deal of time has been wasted in the intervention of the Speaker. The measure recommended as a rule of order is, in my opinion, a measure of great importance. It is necessary to prevent the House from being kept in session by a minority. I desire to call upon any member who wishes to speak to do so immediately, and to put the question of adjournment to rest. I will be very glad to receive any further notice of adjournment, or to suggest any other course of action."

The Speaker was repeatedly enthusiastically cheered. A motion to adjourn the debate having been rejected, the Speaker then put the motion that leave be given to bring in the Protection bill. The Home Rulers here for two minutes shouted "privilege," "privilege," and then, as the Speaker still remained standing, they all left the House in a body, leaving to the Speaker as he did so, the other members cheering their departure. The motion that leave be given to bring in the bill was then unanimously agreed to.

NOTICE OF RESTRICTIONS PROPOSED.

Mr. Gladstone then announced that he would move on Thursday that if on notice being given that the business of the House is urgent, and if on the call by the Speaker forty members shall support the demand for urgency, the Speaker shall forthwith put the question without debate, amendment or adjournment, and if the question of urgency be decided in the affirmative by three to one, then the powers of the House for the regulation of its business shall be vested in and remain with the Speaker, and he shall have the right to suspend the public business in any manner he may think fit. Mr. Gladstone gave notice that he proposes to follow the above motion by a resolution declaring that the state of the public business is urgent.

ON THE REASSEMBLING OF THE HOUSE, THE SPEAKER, replying to Mr. Labouchere (Liberal), said he would read notice on his own responsibility. Mr. Parnell said he also wished to call attention to the Speaker's ruling. The Speaker informed Mr. Parnell that it was not a question of privilege; he must, therefore, give notice.

Mr. A. M. Sullivan (Home Ruler) moved the adjournment of the House to enable the Speaker to give notice for the adjournment of the House. The Speaker, Mr. Sullivan, made an indignant speech. Mr. Sullivan declared that the House was not a court of law, and that the Speaker was not a judge. The Speaker, Mr. Sullivan, declared that the House was not a court of law, and that the Speaker was not a judge. The Speaker, Mr. Sullivan, declared that the House was not a court of law, and that the Speaker was not a judge.

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Mr. Mitchell Henry said he considered the Irish members had taken a very high position, and that they were entitled to the opinion of the country and sacrificed the rights of the people. Mr. Henry was interrupted by Mr. Philip Callan and other members who accused him of attributing falsehood to Mr. Parnell.

The Irish members, up to 5:35 p. m., continued their obstructive motions. The motion for adjournment was finally rejected. Mr. Parnell then moved the adjournment of the House to enable the Speaker to give notice for the adjournment of the House. The Speaker, Mr. Parnell, made an indignant speech. Mr. Parnell declared that the House was not a court of law, and that the Speaker was not a judge.

Mr. O'Donnell maintained that the House should adjourn, as otherwise Mr. Parnell would have an opportunity to make an anti-constitutional statement, which would go forth with out contradiction.

The Speaker's interference, which closed the obstructive debate, was warmly welcomed by the Home Rulers, and forced the first reading of the Protection bill, was evidently prearranged, as he read from a manuscript the statement in which he announced that a crisis had arisen demanding the intervention of the Speaker and the House.

Mr. Sullivan intends to move, as an amendment to Mr. Gladstone's resolution, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the mode of conducting public business.

The Standard says it is understood that Mr. Parnell intends to proceed with his vote of censure on the action of the Speaker, and that he has given notice of Lord Beaconsfield to-day to decide on the course to be pursued by the party.

Some Irish members who accepted invitations to dine with the Speaker on Wednesday, have withdrawn their acceptances, owing to the events of yesterday.

Mr. Parnell will move to-day for a select committee to inquire into the precedents for the Speaker's action. Mr. Cowen will ask Mr. Gladstone for an early day on which to discuss the conduct of the Speaker.

THE SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Although *The Pall Mall Gazette's* leading article this afternoon is headed "The Speaker's Coup d'Etat," that journal justifies the course pursued by the Speaker, and says:

"The step is an exceedingly strong one, but nothing more than a strong step could have met the emergency. It is revolutionary, but Mr. Parnell's conduct is equally revolutionary. They must take the consequences of waging in Parliament, that was which they are not strong enough to wear in the House of Commons. They have no traditions of the parliamentary game, they have no right to complain if the same traditions are broken by the Government."

Of Mr. Gladstone's proposal, *The Pall Mall Gazette* says:

"The power entrusted to the Speaker is unlimited. The Speaker of the greatest will demand the most anxious consideration. The public is hardly

prepared for a method of turning the difficulty into a single act of the responsibility thrown on a single man."

*The St. James's Gazette*, in a leading article headed "Anarchy by Caplet," adversely criticises the course pursued by the Speaker, and declares that Mr. Gladstone's proposal is a "great mistake."

*The Standard*, in its leading editorial, unhesitatingly approves the action of the Speaker of the House of Commons. It says: "We may be very sure that this action would not have been arrived at, save after earnest consultation with the Government and opposition."

Sir Stafford Northcote has given notice of amendments to Mr. Gladstone's resolution.

AN IRISH ATTACK FRUSTRATED.

*The Globe* this afternoon says: "The door of Mr. Gladstone's residence in Downing-st. has been guarded by policemen night and day recently, in view of a possible Fenian attack. Mr. Gladstone was followed at a distance by policemen when he went to the House of Commons to-day."

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

OTTOMAN TROUBLES IMPENDING.

LONDON, Wednesday, Feb. 2, 1881.

The correspondent of *The Times* at Bucharest, Greece, says: "It is a great mistake to suppose that the Greek army is about to be sent to Turkey and Greece, as it is a great mistake to suppose that the Greek army is about to be sent to Turkey and Greece, as it is a great mistake to suppose that the Greek army is about to be sent to Turkey and Greece."

The British Charge d'Affaires at Constantinople has been instructed to inform the Turkish Government that the British Government is not prepared to recognize the Greek army as a belligerent force.

Mr. Commins, the Greek Premier, replying to Mr. Gladstone's resolution, said that the Greek Government was not prepared to recognize the British Government as a belligerent force.

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appoint a special committee of five to consider changes in the code of ethics, such committee to submit a report in 1882. The report was received and the various resolutions were passed.

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ALMOST DOWN TO ZERO.

SECOND COLDEST DAY OF THE WINTER.

THE MERCURY ONE DEGREE ABOVE ZERO AT THE EQUITABLE BUILDING—TRAVEL AND TRAFFIC IMPAIRED BY THE SNOW AND ICE—SCENES IN THE STREETS AND ON THE RIVERS—THE MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO STREET CLEANING—LONG ISLAND RAILROADS BLOCKADED.

Yesterday was the second coldest day of the winter, the lowest temperature recorded in this city being 1° above zero. There was a brisk wind and the snow drifted in all exposed places. Travel in the streets was seriously impeded by the snow, and large fields of ice in the rivers and bay caused much delay to ferry-boats and other craft. There was a slight collision between two ferry-boats on the East River. The Mayor has requested the Police Department to clean certain streets in the business parts of the city. The Long Island railroads are blocked by the snow.

DISCOMFORT AND DELAYS TO TRAVEL.

The snow-storm which passed over this city Tuesday night, travelling at the rate of twenty-five miles an hour, and clearing away at midnight, the clouds cleared away and the streets became visible. Yesterday morning the sun rose clear and unobscured. About five inches of snow had fallen. The temperature fell gradually toward morning. At sunrise the thermometer of the Signal Service Station at the Equitable Building registered 1° above zero, the lowest point reached. The keen cutting north wind which had accompanied the snow-storm moderated very much. During the morning hours it was from the northwest, blowing at the rate of fourteen miles an hour.

The street-cleaning companies were at work before sunrise cleaning the tracks from snow. As there was no one to dispute the possession of the street, except here and there a solitary milk wagon, the work was accomplished in a comparatively short time. Early in the morning boys and men who were fortunate enough to procure shovels reaped their harvest in cleaning sidewalks and gutters. They seemed to view with ill-concealed envy and undisguised contempt the efforts of any householder who attempted to remove the snow from in front of his house himself. The extreme cold was productive of unusual activity. The Street Cleaning Bureau made no attempt either to clear the streets or to remove the ice from the gutters and curbs.

In places exposed to the wind, on Madison and Union Squares, at the entrances to the Park, in the thinnest districts, and on the Battery, the snow had accumulated in large drifts. Ash-barrels were blown over by the wind, and the contents were scattered about. In several instances the snow was blown into the faces of pedestrians. People on their way down stairs stopped to consult thermometers. The thermometer at the Signal Service Station, at the Equitable Building, registered 1° above zero, and felt considerably colder immediately afterward, but not uniformly. Snow-drifts and trucks were compelled to double their teams. Some of the fire engines were stopped by the snow, and the drivers, driving fast, and having had their wagons and harnesses altered accordingly.

As the morning wore on, and the traffic increased, the snow-drifts became more frequent. In West-st., below Canal-st., several accidents occurred. The snow-drifts were blown into the faces of pedestrians. People on their way down stairs stopped to consult thermometers. The thermometer at the Signal Service Station, at the Equitable Building, registered 1° above zero, and felt considerably colder immediately afterward, but not uniformly. Snow-drifts and trucks were compelled to double their teams. Some of the fire engines were stopped by the snow, and the drivers, driving fast, and having had their wagons and harnesses altered accordingly.

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